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* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "Because they are all responsible people, and will not take to self-driving unless they are really fit for it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"Does the hon. the Home Member think that it is absolutely necessary that this medical examination should be done only by the Police Surgeon; that is, will it not do if the persons applying for licences get a certificate from qualified medical practitioner?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I think it is better that these certificates are issued by a responsible officer of the City Police."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know what distinction there is between a certificate issued by a medical officer and that issued by a Police Surgeon?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member is aware of the fact that a memorial has been submitted by members belonging to the Motor Drivers' Association relating to the issue of medical certificates by the Police Surgeon?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I think a memorial has been received to that effect."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether a Police Surgeon is an eye-specialist?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "He has enough knowledge to issue certificates."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU :—"Is a Police Surgeon an expert mechanic?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "It is not necessary that he should be an expert mechanic."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"In consideration of the fact that in the City of Madras there are a number of qualified medical surgeons available, do not Government consider it sufficient if the medical certificates are issued by such men instead of by the Police Surgeon?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "Government do not think so."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know the test that the Police Surgeon sets for the examination of the eye-sight of persons applying for licences for driving a motor car?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "It is too technical a matter for me to reply."

Jails

Alleged lathi charge on some prisoners at the Cannanore Central Jail.

*2 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a lathi charge was made on political prisoners at the Cannanore Central Jail in September and, if so, for what reasons; and

(*b*) how many received slight and serious injuries respectively as the result of this?

A.—(*a*) On 7th September 1930, one ordinary Satyagraha prisoner instigated by some of the 'B' class prisoners hoisted the Congress flag on No. 5 block of the Central Jail, Cannanore. The prisoner was awarded bar-fetters on 8th September 1930. The same evening 82 people locked up in the Borstal Block refused to go to their blocks or cells at lock-up time and declared a lock-up strike. They insisted that the prisoner who was awarded bar-fetters should have his bar-fetters removed at once. They were asked by the jailor to represent the matter to the Superintendent the next morning, but they paid no heed to the jailor's words. The prisoners were then informed that if they did not go, force would be used, and they replied that they were ready for it. A baton charge was then ordered and they were locked up.

(*b*) One warder received serious injuries and one jail teacher, one clerk, and five warders minor injuries from the prisoners. Among the latter six were injured slightly.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether Government have received information regarding clause (*b*) of my question ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is answered in the printed list of questions. Evidently the hon. Member has not referred to the answer."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" My question is how many political prisoners received slight and serious injuries ? The answer does not make this clear."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The question is 'how many received slight and serious injuries respectively as a result of this ?' There is nothing about political prisoners in that question."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" It is evident from the question that it refers to political prisoners."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir. It refers only to injuries, and the answer given is 'One warder received serious injuries and one jail teacher, one clerk, and five warders minor injuries from the prisoners. Among the latter six were injured slightly'."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether any Satyagrahi prisoners were removed from that jail subsequent to this and if so, why ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Did the prisoners take part in counter-charging the warders ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Evidently, so."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know how many of those injured political prisoners were sent to the jail hospital ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not know whether there were any political prisoners who were injured and I do not know how many of them were sent to the jail hospital."

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what are the circumstances under which a baton charge is made ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That is a matter of jail discipline within the purview of the Superintendent of the Jail."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR .—" May I know by which medical officer these prisoners were treated ? Was it by the medical officer of the jail or by the ordinary officer of the jail ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" By the medical officer of the jail."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know when the Jail Superintendent can inflict punishment for offences that may be committed by the prisoners ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" There are rules which regulate these matters."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know what those rules are ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I request my Friend to refer to the Jail Manual for that information."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member has satisfied himself that this case came under those rules ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I am quite satisfied."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Should not that Superintendent have approached these prisoners that very evening instead of the next morning ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is a matter of discretion."

Mr A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Should not the Superintendent . . . "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order."

Number of lady Satyagraha prisoners.

* 3 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of lady Satyagrahi prisoners in various jails, and the number in each of the classes of prison ?

A.—The information has been called for.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the answer has since been received ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."